

PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. HOOV 120

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Michael D. Hooven

Serial No.: 10/015,476

Filed: December 13, 2001

Examiner:

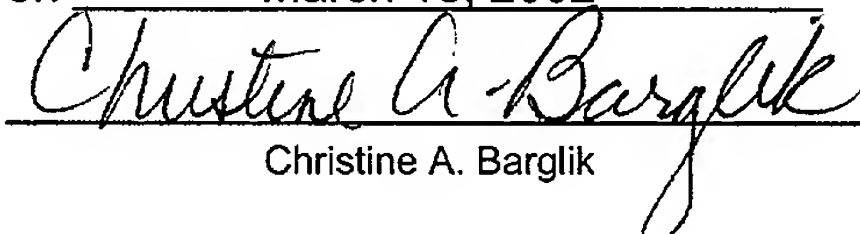
Art Unit: 3739

For: SUB-XYPHOID METHOD FOR ABLATING  
CARDIAC TISSUE

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) Date: March 18, 2002

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified patent application prior to substantive examination.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph 1 with the following paragraph:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application is a division of application Serial No. 10/038,506, filed November 9, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 10/032,378, filed October 26, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/844,225,

filed April 27, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/747,609, filed December 22, 2000, which claims the benefit of provisional application Serial No. 60/200,072, filed April 27, 2000.--

**REMARKS**

This is a Preliminary Amendment to the above-identified application. By this Amendment, serial numbers have been identified for related applications.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application is a division of application Serial No. 10/038,506, filed November 9, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 10/032,378, filed October 26, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/844,225, filed April 27, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/747,609, filed December 22, 2000, which claims the benefit of provisional application Serial No. 60/200,072, filed April 27, 2000.--